PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

President : Under Rule 3 (i) of the Legislative Rules I nominate Messrs. V. S. Arumukhom Pillai and G. Narayana Aiyar to the Panel of Chairmen for this session of the Council.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

DEMAND III—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai : Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 1,675 under Demand III,—Administration of Justice. Honourable members will kindly note that Rs. 800 out of this is for additional grant under T. A. for the Advocate General's Office and Rs. 875 is for the appointment of a temporary Government pleader to conduct the Chengannur riot case in the Quilon Sessions Court.

I may be permitted, Sir, to state that towards the close of 1114 and in 1115 the Government pleaders attached to the Advocate General's Office had to be deputed to various mofussil stations for the conduct of criminal cases. They had to be deputed for various reasons. In the first place the congestion of work in the courts was so great that pleaders from the Advocate General's office had to be deputed for relieving the pressure. Secondly, owing to the peculiar nature of some cases such pleaders have to be deputed. Therefore for their T. A. and daily allowance an additional sum of Rs. 800 is claimed under this demand. Item No. 1 is in regard to that demand.

As regards Item No. 2, the trial of the Chengannoor riot case has already commenced in the Quilon Sessions Court and on account of the fact that there are over 200 accuseds under trial in that case and about 146 witnesses to be examined for the prosecution, one of the two pleaders of the court has to devote his attention entirely to the conduct of this work for 3 or 4 months. During that period for the conduct of the ordinary business of the court only one Government Pleader will be available and this will not be sufficient. There are two courts engaged in Sessions and Civil work. So an additional hand has to be engaged for the period during which the Chengannoor case lasts. These are the circumstances under which this supplementary demand is made.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, I cannot but place this fact before the House that there are not enough work for the pleaders now as there are more Judges than are necessary. For example in Kottayam, there are more Judges than we need. If that is true we may have more Government Pleaders. So my submission is that the number of Judges may be reduced as a result of which the number of Government Pleaders can also be reduced. If their number is not reduced, at least these pleaders can be engaged for these special works.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: Sir, I tried to explain the position with sufficient clearness. The Chengannur riot case has already commenced trial. It is a case in which 200 accuseds and 146 witnesses are involved. The case itself will take at least 4 months. A court and a pleader have to devote their entire time to the conduct of this case. There are already 3 courts in the Quilon District, one of which will be in charge of this case. The other two courts cannot suspend sittings. One Judge will be fully engaged in the sessions work while the execution work and the other civil work will be looked after by the other bench. If that is so, one pleader is inadequate. The honourable member's suggestion that we have more courts than we actually require and therefore more pleaders than are really necessary is worth considering. For every District Court there must be a pleader, and until any court is abolished there is no question of superfluity of Government pleaders. At present the question of abolishing courts and making available the services of any pleader for any other special work could not be dealt with. I have explained why an additional pleader is necessary for the Quilon Court. I request the honourable member will withdraw his objection. The other question to which the honourable member refers is more complex and will be dealt with later.

President: The question before the House is that a sum of Rs. 1,675 under demand III—Administration of Justice—be granted.

The motion was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND X—PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

Mr. G. Narayanan Tampi: Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 1,000 under Demand X—Public Health and Sanitation.

The amount is required for payment of rent for the building in which the office of the Director of Public Health is now housed. Till the beginning of Kanni this year, the office had been housed in a Government building near the Collegiate Hostel. That building was requisitioned by the University for the use of the University Union. It was therefore, handed over to the University and the Director's office shifted to another building. As no Government building was available for the purpose, a private building, situated very near the Public Offices, has been hired. The terms are more favourable than those that prevailed when another office had been accommodated in this building. As this is a new service not contemplated when framing the budget, I hope the House will have no objection in sanctioning the grant.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly